Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AF-08 ARA-06 EUR-12 NEA-10 ACDA-07 ERDA-05 IO-13 NASA-01 OIC-02 OES-06 SAJ-01 /126 W

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P R 110903Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6241
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
USMISSION UN NEW YORK

CONFIDENTIAL KUALA LUMPUR 1001

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PARM, UN, MY

SUBJECT: UN SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT - MALAYSIAN POSITION

REF: STATE 26795

- 1. SUMMARY. GOM WILL SUPPORT UN SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT AND HOPES FOR POSITIVE RESULTS. END SUMMARY.
- 2. GOM, AS ACTIVE MEMBER OF NAM,IS COMMITTED TO SUPPORT OF THE UN SPECIAL SESSIONS ON DISARAMENT (SSOD). MALAYSIANS WILL BACK UNGA PRESIDENT, WHO THEY SUSPECT WILL BE YUGOSAMV, AS PRESIDENT OF THE SSOD, BELIEVING THAT THIS WLL HAVE MODERATING EFFECT ON SESSION. THEY ANTICIPATE SS WILL CONSIST OF PLENARY, AT WHICH FOREIGN MINISTERS WILL MAKE GENERALIZED STATEMENTS OF THEIR GOVERNMENTS' POSITIONS AND OF ONE OR TWO COMMITTEES THAT WILL MEET SIMULTANEIOUSLY TO DISCUSS SPECIFIC ISSUES AND NWDREPARE A DECLARATION (AND/OR RESOLUTION). ISSUES WILL BE THOSE ALREADY CONFIDENTIAL

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RAISED IN THE FIRST COMMITTEE AND MALAYSIANS ARE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN THE QUESTION OF NUCLEAR FREE ZONES AND ZONES OF PEACE (ALTHOUGH MFA SEEMS DISINCLINED TO SPECIFICALLY SEEK ENDORSEMENT OF THE SOUTHEAST ASIAN ZONE OF PEACE, FREEDOM AND NEUTRALITTY, POSSIBLE TO AVOID OPPOSITION FROM LAOS AND OTHER ALLIES OF THE SRV). MALAYSIANS

EXPECT A SLANGING MATCH BETWEEN THE PRC AND THE USSR AND OTHER RHETORICAL FLOURISHES TO INTRUDE INTO THE WORK OF THE SESSION BUT MFA OFFICIALS SAY THEY ARE OPTIMISTIC THAT GENUINE MOMENTUM WILL BE GENERATED LEADING TO POSITIVE RESULTS "LIKE THE OMNIBUS RESOLUTION OF THE 7TH SS." ONE OFFICIAL INDICATEDD PREVIATELY TO EMBOFFS THAT HE EXPECTED PROBLEMS WITH CONTROLS ON CONVENTIONAL ARMS FROM THE ARABS, POSSIBLE TO SIGNAL THAT THE GOMM WOULD NOT WANT TO PRESS THE ARABLS SHOULD THEY BALK AT LIMITATIONS. IN THIS REGARD, HE INDICATED THAT MALAYSA WOULD "HAVE TO GO EASY" IF THE JAPANESE REINTRODUCE THEIR INITIATIVE ON CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS. MFA OFFICIALS ALSO SAY THEY ARE WARY OF RUSSIAN ATTEMPTS TO SECURE A WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE, TERMING THIS A "LAST RESORT" ALTHOUGH THE GOM IS "SOMEWHAT" COMMITTED TO THE CONCEPT THROUGH THE NAC. FINALLY, THE GOM IS SKEPTICAL OF SUGGESTIONS TO ESTABLISH ANY MACHINERY TO MONITOR DISARMAMENT PROGRESS, ONE OFFICIAL CLAIMING THAT THIS WOULD ONLY ADD TO THE BURDGEONING UN BUREAUCRACY.

3. IT APPEARS THAT FOREIGN MINISTER RITHAUDDEEN WILL HEAD ANY DELEGATION TO THE MAIN SSOD BUT THE REGUALR UN MISSION WILL BE HANDLING THE PREPARATORY CONFERENCE.
UNDERHILL

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